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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

24 June 1957

STAFF MEMORANDUM NO. 36-57

SUBJECT: Possible SNIE on the Kashmir Dispute

Assistant Secretary of State Rountree, plans to propose at tomorrow's LAC meeting that a SNIE be undertaken on the Kashmir dispute. Although such an estimate would presumably provide some reassessment of the prospects for a settlement, it would probably be directed primarily at estimating the likelihood of serious trouble in the probable event that Pakistan's projected re-raising of the issue at the UN Security Council this summer (and probably thereafter at the General Assembly) fails to produce any tangible results.

In our existing estimate on India and Pakistan\* and that a new SNIE would merely reaffirm the long held conclusion that, despite the improbability of any mutually satisfactory solution, the chances of major hostilities between Pakistan and India remain small. However, a brief resurvey of the situation might be justified in the light of the developments of the last few months. Pakistan has scored a notable diplomatic victory over India in inducing the UN to reaffirm its support of a

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<sup>\*</sup> NIE 51-56, "India over the Next Five Years," 8 May 1956 NIE 52-56, "Probable Developments in Pakistan," 13 November 1956

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plebiscite in Kashmir despite India's objections. There have been some signs of restiveness over the situation on the part of Azad Kashmir leaders, tribesmen, and members of the Pakistani military establishment. Since the Pakistan government's projected efforts to pursue its case at the UN will almost certainly fail to extract any real concessions from India, pressures for more direct action are likely to increase once the UN phase is over. Meanwhile, India, which is smarting and embarrassed over the diplomatic and prestige setbacks it has suffered at Pakistan's hands, may be in a more truculent mood, especially in view of its fear that continued US military aid for Pakistan will destroy India's military preponderance over Pakistan.

3. If a SNIE on Kashmir is authorized by the IAC, we recommend the following schedule:

>	Koundhees partic part.	
	Oral Contributions	Wednesday, 26 June
	Staff Draft to Chief, Estimates Staff	Monday, 1 July
	Board Consideration	Wednesday, 3 July
	IAC Representatives meet	Wednesday, 10 July
	IAC meets	Tuesday, 16 July

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